

D-207

1820; 1890

Grace Protestant Episcopal Church,
The Chapel of Ease, and Mulberry Grove School
Taylors Island
Private; National Register

The Chapel of Ease is a frame structure measuring approximately 20 by 30 feet on brick piers. On the west gable is a single herringbone batten door. Two windows, with six-over-six sash, on each of the lateral sides light the interior. On the east gable end is a recently constructed chimney. The building appears to be used as a meeting room. Its interior is composed of a single room with balcony or choir loft above the entrance. The latter is accessible from a stair in the southwest corner and is supported by two posts with chamfered edges.

To the southwest of the chapel is a small building moved here from Mulberry Grove (D-23) on the other side of the island. This building was the first schoolhouse in Dorchester County. Restored by the Grace Foundation in 1959, it is now used as a display area and lavatory.

To the north of the chapel of ease is a more recent church. It is a frame structure built on brick piers in Victorian Gothic style, with a very steeply pitched gable roof. The door has a Welsh arch. There is a small open belfry supported on a pyramidal structure at the apex of the roof. Wind braces of the open belfry form Welsh arches, a repetition of the window motif. There is also a tall, narrow spire with a decorative wood shingle roof, at the pinnacle of which there is a wooden cross.

This forms one of the more attractive complexes of frame buildings in the county, and the church appears to have been the prototype for all the smaller chapels in the county which have Welsh-arch windows, e.g., Oak Grove (D-221).

D-207

(Rev. 1-77)
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Grace Episcopal Church and Chapel of Ease and Mulberry Grove School

AND OR COMMON

Grace Episcopal Church complex

2 LOCATIONSTREET & NUMBER East side of Hooper Neck Road, .3 mile north
of the Post Office

CITY, TOWN

Taylor's Island

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

CODE

24

COUNTY

Dorchester

CODE

019

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES RESTRICTED☐ YES UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Grace Foundation of Taylor's Island, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Taylor's Island

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

21669

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dorchester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

21613

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

(Rev. 1-65)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Grace Episcopal Church and Chapel of Ease and Mulberry Grove School

AND/OR COMMON

Grace Episcopal Church complex

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER East side of Hooper Neck Road, .3 mile north
of the Post Office

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Taylor's Island

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Dorchester

CODE

019

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- ☐ DISTRICT
- ☒ BUILDING(S)
- ☐ STRUCTURE
- ☐ SITE
- ☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- ☐ PUBLIC
- ☐ PRIVATE
- ☐ BOTH
- ☐ PUBLIC ACQUISITION
- ☐ IN PROCESS
- ☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- ☐ OCCUPIED
- ☐ UNOCCUPIED
- ☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
- ☐ ACCESSIBLE
- ☐ YES RESTRICTED
- ☐ YES UNRESTRICTED
- ☐ NO

PRESENT USE

- ☐ AGRICULTURE
- ☐ MUSEUM
- ☐ COMMERCIAL
- ☐ PARK
- ☐ EDUCATIONAL
- ☐ PRIVATE RES. DENCE
- ☐ ENTERTAINMENT
- ☐ RELIGIOUS
- ☐ GOVERNMENT
- ☐ SCIENTIFIC
- ☐ INDUSTRIAL
- ☐ TRANSPORTATION
- ☐ MILITARY
- ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Grace Foundation of Taylor's Island, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Taylor's Island

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

21669

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Dorchester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

21613

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		(School)

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

On this site on Taylor's Island are three frame structures: a schoolhouse, chapel of ease, and Grace Episcopal Church.

The chapel of ease is a frame structure, measuring approximately 20' x 30', on brick piers. It probably dates from the first quarter of the 19th century. On the west gable is a single herringbone batten door. Two windows, with 6/6 sash, on each of the lateral sides light the interior of the former chapel. On the east gable is a recently constructed chimney. The building is used as a meeting room.

Its interior is composed of a single room with balcony or choir loft above the entrance. The latter is accessible from a stair in the southwest corner and is supported on two posts with chamfered edges. Its floors are of wide pine, and the walls are plastered, with portions of posts and plaster exposed. The plaster ceiling follows the contour of the rafters and tie beams.

To the southwest of the chapel is a small building which was moved here from Mulberry Grove, on the other side of the Island. This building, as the plaque reads, was "The first school house in Dorchester County and was built and used on Taylor's Island. Given to the Grace Foundation 1955." It is now used as a display area and lavatory.

To the north of the chapel of ease is a more recent church, probably dating from the 3rd quarter of the 19th century. It is a frame structure built on brick piers in Victorian Gothic style, with very steeply pitched gable roof. The doorway has a Welsh arch, and both leaves of the door are composed of a single panel of vertical boards surrounded by stiles and rails. Flanking the door are two very narrow vertical windows. A pair of larger, similar windows is located above the canopy. Each of the four panes is surrounded by narrow strips of colored glass. At the apex of the gable is a hexagonal window with central Star of David in leaded glass. At the apex of the roof is a small open belfry supported on a pyramidal structure covered with wood shingles. The wind braces of the open belfry form Welsh arches, a repetition of the window motif. There is also a tall, narrow spire with decorative wood shingle roof, at the pinnacle of which is a wooden cross.

German siding covers the exterior walls of the structure at the base of which is a diagonal watershed board. Along the sides are five windows similar to those above the entrance. Between the third and fourth bays is a brick chimney with weatherings in two positions.

At the rear of the structure is a small section with single door on the south side. The back or gable of this is composed of two very small windows, similar to those flanking the entrance, and three larger windows, the center one being taller.

The building has a wide overhang and is completely boxed. Only at the corners are there brackets. At the juncture of the box cornice and the shingle is an unusual round molding.

Form No. 10-300a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Grace Episcopal Church complex
Dorchester County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The interior consists of an entrance hall across the west end, a nave, and a chancel flanked by two small rooms at the east end. In the hall a small square opening is the only way to get to the steeple from inside the church. In the nave there is a center aisle with long banks of pews on either side. The chancel is a round-arched area recessed from the nave. The three windows over the altar and the side windows all have small pointed arches. The stained glass is opaque in the center with colored glass around the edges. Several kerosene fixtures remain along the side walls.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Church - circa 1873
Chapel - circa 1820 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Grace Foundation has one of the more attractive complexes of frame buildings in Dorchester County. The chapel of ease dates from 1820 and the church from circa 1873. The latter seems to be the prototype of all the smaller chapels in the county which have Welsh arch windows (e.g., Oak Grove).

Dorchester Parish was laid out in 1693. Circa 1900 it consisted of Grace Church, Taylor's and Old Trinity Church, Church Creek. The Parish had financial problems throughout the 19th century, which are reflected in the vestry minutes.

In August 1818 a vestry was elected by the parishioners of Dorchester Parish. A month later the vestry agreed to repair the "Dorchester Church @ F. Creek." The bills for this work were recorded in September 1819. An undated entry in the minutes, with 1820 and 1819 entries before it and an 1821 entry after, gives a description of the chapel of ease:

In accordance with the resolution of the Last Convention Vestry of Dorchester Parrish in Dorchester county report that they have at Present there--parish a substantial Brick Church which has Lately been put into Comfortable repare & about two thirds of the pues have been rented out they have also a Small unfinished Chapell on Taylors island Made of Wood in Which a Congration assembles they have no funds [?] or Glebe Lands the Revd G. Weller gives to there Churches as much time as he can speare from the Duties of G Choptank Parish of which he is rector & for which services he receives the rents of the pews CH ? & also the advantage of a small subscription from the Congregation on Tisland . . . 1

This entry goes on to explain that the parish had been in a disorganized state for years, without regular services or a legal vestry and unrepresented at the Conventions. It is stated that all their money was needed to support the ministry and repair the churches.

An entry in the vestry minutes of May 9, 1868 reveals that the parish was once again disorganized. A public notice was posted and the members of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Dorchester Parish were invited to elect a vestry as there was none at that time. Eight members were elected and on May 20, 1872, ". . . the Rev. Mr. Nott was elected Rector of Dorchester Parish, to take charge October 1, 1872 at a salary of \$500 Composed as follows: from Church Creek from \$75 to a \$100. from Taylors Island \$200 to \$225. from the mission fund \$200."2

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Grace Episcopal Church complex
Dorchester County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

2

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

On May 18, 1873 an "informal meeting of the Vestry of Dorchester Parish [was] held at Grace Church, Taylor's Island." This is the first reference to Grace Church, by that name. At this meeting it was resolved unanimously to "petition the Convention of the Diocese of Easton for permission to organize the Congregation of Grace Church on Taylor's Island."³

The Vestry of Grace Church met on Sunday, October 19, 1873, with the Rt. Rev. Bishop Tay present, and adopted the following resolution:

Whereas we are notified to our painful regret of the determination of our beloved Rector to discontinue his Pastorate with us; therefore, be it, Resolved-1st That we adopt this means of Expressing our sincere friendship & heartfelt gratitude to him for his uniform & untiring zeal in the Cause of our Church, and for the unbounded Success with which his efforts to promote the Cause of Religion with us have been crowned⁴

Following the sequence of references from 1868 to 1873, it appears that Grace Church was constructed during this period. In 1868 there was a movement to organize the parish, and in 1872 Taylor's Island was assessed more towards the minister's upkeep than the congregation at Church Creek. All of this seems to lead up to some major interest in the Church on Taylor's Island.

In 1873 Grace Church was first mentioned, with a request to formally organize the congregation. Then later in October 1873 when the minister, presumably Mr. Nott, who was appointed in May 1872, decided to leave the vestry congratulated him for the "unbounded success with which his efforts . . . have been crowned." It seems logical then to believe that the church was built during Mr. Nott's term, between May 1872 and October 1873.

According to a "sketch of Dorchester Parish" in the front of a Parish Register dated 1877-1-37, Grace Church was consecrated in May 1873 by the Rt. Rev. H.C. Leay, Bishop of Easton. Whether or not this was the same visit described above is not certain but it does establish that the church was standing in 1873.⁵

The school now at this location was moved here from Mulberry Grove on the Chesapeake Bay side of Taylor's Island. This small frame building, originally containing only one room, is said to have been the first school built in the country.⁶

D-207

Form No 10-300a
(Rev 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Grace Episcopal Church complex
Dorchester County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 3

(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

¹Vestry minutes 1819 - 1860 (19962).

²Vestry minutes 1868-1892 (19963).

³Ibid.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Parish Register 1877-1937 (19961).

⁶Plaque on the school building.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

D-207

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Grace Episcopal Church complex
Dorchester County :

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

4

ADDENDUM TO SIGNIFICANCE

Grace Episcopal Church is a carpenter Gothic structure typical of the small parish churches built in the United States in the second half of the 19th century. This particular example has a very steeply sloped roof and a bellcote with a tall steeple-like roof, giving it a grander appearance than other similar buildings (e.g., St. Paul's Church, Hillsboro, Caroline County, and St. Paul's Chapel, Crownsville, Anne Arundel County, Maryland).

The chapel of ease is significant as one of the few structures of its size and origin to survive. Its continued use as part of the church complex is also rare.

Dorchester Parish was one of the parishes of the Episcopal Church erected in Maryland in 1692-1693. These were the first parishes set up in the province. Dorchester Parish, of which Grace Church is a part, continues to be a separate parish.

The school building here is thought to be the first such constructed in Dorchester County. In any case, it is certainly one of the earliest, perhaps the earliest, surviving in the county to the present day.

HISTORY

The school located on the property has been moved twice. Originally located in a field by the road leading to James Island, it was moved to Mulberry Grove farm, and then to its present site. Believed to have been built circa 1785, it was purchased in 1855 by Traver Spicer of Mulberry Grove. In 1855 it was known as the "old schoolhouse". Spicer moved the building to his farm and used it as a smokehouse. When the Spicer family sold the farm in the 1950s, they wanted to preserve the school. In 1959 they donated it to the Grace Foundation for their use so the school would be accessible to the public. The exterior of the building remains basically intact, used for modern facilities.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

D-207

Records of Dorchester Parish in Dorchester County, Maryland.
(Diocese of Easton) at the Hall of Records, Annapolis.
Parish Register & Vestry minutes 1877-1937 (19961).
Vestry minutes 1819-1860 (19962).
Vestry minutes 1868-1892 (19963).

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET # 5

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,8 3,8,5,8,1,0 4,2,5,8,6,7,0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the east side of Hooper Neck Road .95 mile from the bridge to the mainland, following the road north 435 feet, then northeast 200 feet to a point, the southeast 435 feet to a point, then west 200 feet to the point of beginning, containing 2 acres.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Pamela James, National Register Coordinator

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

1 km

DATE

May 1975

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

STATE

Maryland 21401

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

D-207

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Grace Episcopal Church complex
Dorchester County

CONTINUATION SHEET Maryland

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 5

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES, continued

Telephone interview with Mrs. J. Stapleforte Neild, Ridgeton Farm, Taylor's Island, Maryland. Mrs. Neild is a descendant of Traver Spicer and her family has many of his papers. (Re: schoolhouse)

Skirven, Percy G. The First Parishes of the Province of Maryland. Baltimore: The Norman, Remington Co., 1923.

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

___ EXCELLENT
 X GOOD
 ___ FAIR

___ DETERIORATED
 ___ RUINS
 ___ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

___ UNALTERED
 X ALTERED

CHECK ONE

X ORIGINAL SITE
 X MOVED DATE _____
 (School)

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

On this site on Taylor's Island are three frame structures: a schoolhouse, chapel of ease, and Grace Episcopal Church.

The chapel of ease is a frame structure, measuring approximately 20' x 30', on brick piers. It probably dates from the first quarter of the 19th century. On the west gable is a single herringbone batten door. Two windows, with 6/6 sash, on each of the lateral sides light the interior of the former chapel. On the east gable is a recently constructed chimney. The building is used as a meeting room.

Its interior is composed of a single room with balcony or choir loft above the entrance. The latter is accessible from a stair in the southwest corner and is supported on two posts with chamfered edges. Its floors are of wide pine, and the walls are plastered, with portions of posts and plaster exposed. The plaster ceiling follows the contour of the rafters and tie beams.

To the southwest of the chapel is a small building which was moved here from Mulberry Grove, on the other side of the Island. This building, as the plaque reads, was "The first school house in Dorchester County and was built and used on Taylor's Island. Given to the Grace Foundation 1955." It is now used as a display area and lavatory.

To the north of the chapel of ease is a more recent church, probably dating from the 3rd quarter of the 19th century. It is a frame structure built on brick piers in Victorian Gothic style, with very steeply pitched gable roof. The doorway has a Welsh arch, and both leaves of the door are composed of a single panel of vertical boards surrounded by stiles and rails. Flanking the door are two very narrow vertical windows. A pair of larger, similar windows is located above the canopy. Each of the four panes is surrounded by narrow strips of colored glass. At the apex of the gable is a hexagonal window with central Star of David in leaded glass. At the apex of the roof is a small open belfry supported on a pyramidal structure covered with wood shingles. The wind braces of the open belfry form Welsh arches, a repetition of the window motif. There is also a tall, narrow spire with decorative wood shingle roof, at the pinnacle of which is a wooden cross.

German siding covers the exterior walls of the structure at the base of which is a diagonal watershed board. Along the sides are five windows similar to those above the entrance. Between the third and fourth bays is a brick chimney with weatherings in two positions.

At the rear of the structure is a small section with single door on the south side. The back or gable of this is composed of two very small windows, similar to those flanking the entrance, and three larger windows, the center one being taller.

The building has a wide overhang and is completely boxed. Only at the corners are there brackets. At the juncture of the box cornice and the shingle is an unusual round molding.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM REFERENCES

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

Maryland 21401

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

LOCAL _____

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
Grace Protestant Episcopal Church				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
Hooper Neck Road, .3 mile north of the Post Office				
CITY OR TOWN:				
Taylor's Island				
STATE			COUNTY:	
Maryland			Dorchester	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buildings <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition:		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
		<input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME:				
Grace Foundation of Taylor's Island, Inc.				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
Taylor's Island			Maryland	
			21669	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:				
Dorchester County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
High Street				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
Cambridge			Maryland	
			21613	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair
	(Check One)		(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Uncluttered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE			
<p>The Chapel of Ease is a frame structure measuring approximately 20'x 30', on brick piers. On the west gable is a single herring bone batten door. Two windows, with 6/6 sash, on each of the lateral sides light the interior of the former chapel. On the east gable is a recently constructed chimney. The building appears to be used as a meeting room.</p> <p>Its interior is composed of a single room with balcony or choir loft above the entrance. The latter is accessible from a stair in the southwest corner, and it is supported on two posts with chamfered edges. Its floors are of wide pine, the walls plastered, with portions of posts and plaster exposed and the plaster ceiling follows the contour of the rafters and tie beams.</p> <p>To the south west of the chapel is a small building which was removed from Mulberry Grove, on the other side of the Island. This building, as the plaque reads, was "The first school house in Dorchester County and was built and used on Taylor's Island. Given to the Grace Foundation by the Mulberry Grove Spicers. Restored by the Grace Foundation 1955." It is now used as a display area and lavatory.</p> <p>To the north of the Chapel of Ease is a more recent church. It is a frame structure built on brick piers in Victorian Gothic style, with very steeply pitched "A" roof. The door has a Welsh arch and both leaves of the door are composed of a single panel of vertical boards around which are stiles and rails. Flanking the door are two very narrow vertical windows. A pair of the same form of window, but larger, is located above the canopy. Each of the four panes is surrounded by narrow strips of colored glass. At the apex of the gable is a hexagonal window with the center Star of David in leaded glass. At the apex of the roof is a small open belfry supported on a pyramidal structure covered with wood shingles. Wind braces of the open belfry form Welsh arches, a repetition of the window motif. There is also a tall narrow spire with decorative wood shingle roof, at the pinnacle of which is a wooden cross.</p> <p>German siding covers the exterior walls of the structure at the base of which is a diagonal watershed board. Along the sides are five windows similar to those above the entrance. Between the third and fourth bays is a brick chimney with weatherings in two positions.</p> <p>At the rear of the structure is a small portion with single door on the south side. The back or gable of this section is composed of two very small windows, similar to those flanking the entrance, and three larger windows, the center one being taller.</p> <p>The building has a wide overhang and is completely boxed. Only at the corners are there brackets. At the junction of the box cornice with the shingle is an unusual round molding.</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Chapel - 1819

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itorion | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Grace Foundation has one of the more attractive complex of frame buildings in the county. The Chapel of Ease was built in 1820 and the church appears to date from the 1890's. The church seems to be the prototype of all the smaller chapels in the county which have Welsh arch windows, e.g. Oak Grove.

Chapel of Ease

Old Trinity Episcopal Church, circa 1707

In the selection of the middle point between the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay, from the start of the Mason-Dixon Line survey this area was the center of a long controversy among British, Maryland, and Pennsylvania officials as to whether Taylor's Island was a part of the mainland or an island. An adverse discussion resulted in the loss of land to Pennsylvania, now Delaware. Plaque erected by Maryland Historical Society.

#7 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Surrounding this building between it and the Chapel of Ease is a cemetery with several of good stones dating from the 19th and 20th century. In the front yard are two large oak trees and across the road is a opening for the congregation to park.

There is plaque on the steps leading up to the main door which reads: "Given by Mary R. Bosley, in memory of her father, mother, and brother; Nicholas M., Emily A., and J. Hooper Bosley - 1924. Wheather that pertains to the steps or something else, I don't know. There doesn't seem to be a date for the construction of the building, however, I will put it at the last decade of the 19th century. The earlier Chapel of Ease, probably dates from the first quarter of the 19th century.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Jones, Elias, The New Revised History of Dorchester
County, Tidewater Publishers, Cambridge, 1966.
Flower, Thomas A., Dorchester Tercentenary, 1969.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

Map 58, p.53

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

May 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

21401

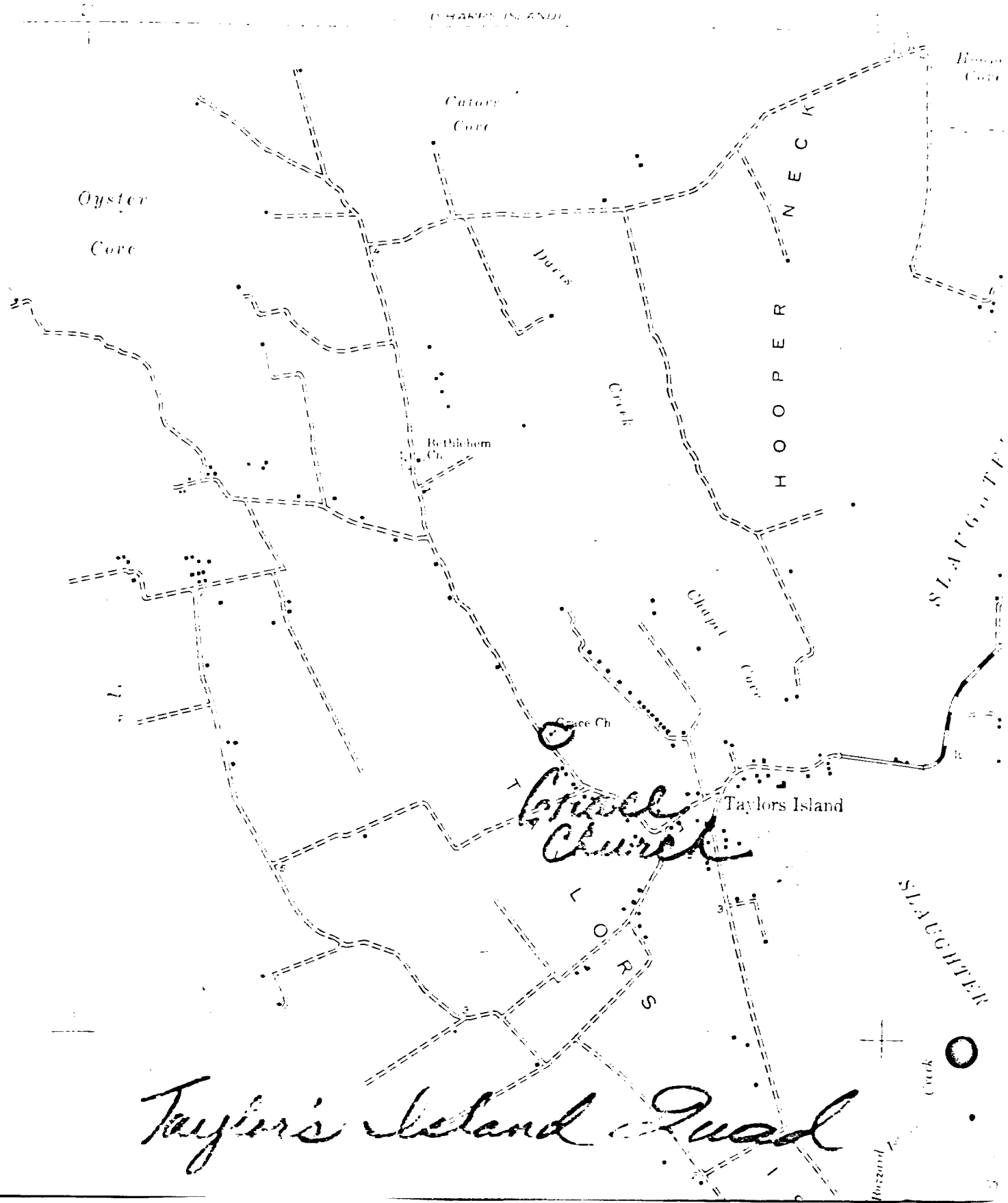
12.

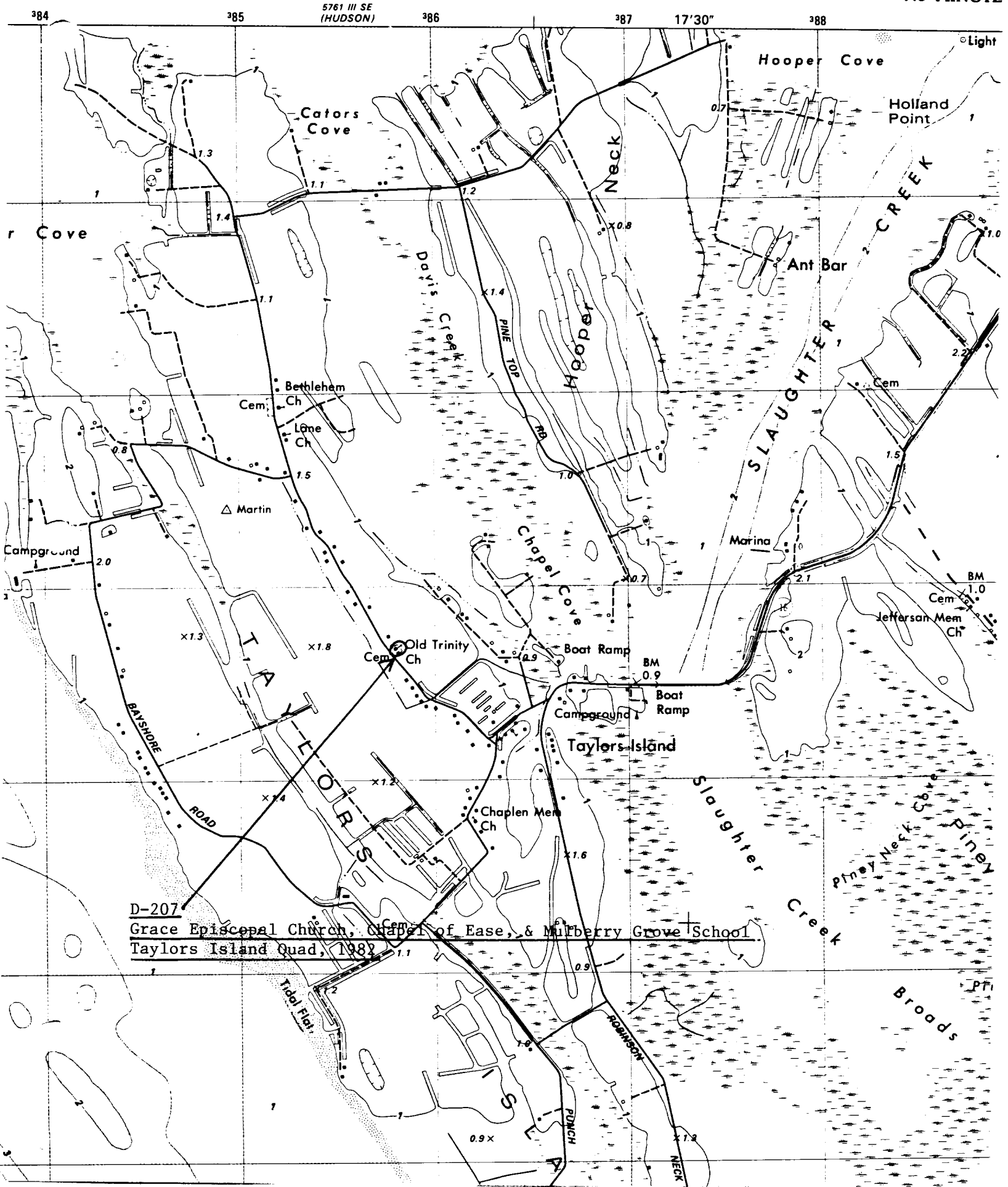
State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Signature







Grace Protestant Episcopal Church

- 207

5/75

12x1-62

75%

D-207



Grace P.E. Church

D-207

M. Bourne Spring 1975



D-207



D-207

D-207



D-207



D-207

D-207



D-207